



# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

## *Office of the Governor*

Timothy M. Kaine  
Governor

October 13, 2009

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling, Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 4898  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Administrator Strickling:

Since 2006, the Commonwealth has focused resources on expanding broadband opportunities throughout Virginia and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding provides an opportunity to serve those who have yet to benefit from our efforts – the remaining unserved areas. In May, I announced the formation of the Governor's Broadband Advisory Council and that Virginia's first broadband availability map – developed at no additional cost to taxpayers – was complete.

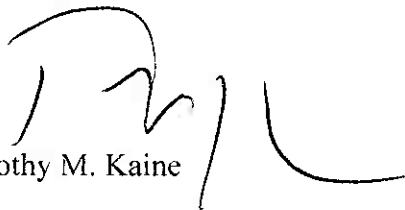
The map is an important resource that has guided our review of the applications that have been submitted to the Administration during this first round of Broadband Initiatives Program/ Broadband Technology Opportunities Program funding. Of the 137 applications submitted referencing Virginia, there are 66 projects that best fit the Commonwealth's broadband policy objectives and the goals of ARRA. The attached spreadsheet highlights those projects.

The Commonwealth requests that Virginia-based entities proposing to do business in Virginia receive a favorable evaluation across all categories -- Infrastructure, Building Sustainable Broadband Demand, and Public Computing Centers. For the infrastructure program, applications that propose services in unserved areas of Virginia would be our priority for project selection. For the building sustainable broadband demand category, delivery of direct services to our citizens such as publicly available training is our priority because direct services will cultivate long-term sustainable demand for the networks built with the ARRA funding.

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We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the project selection process. Karen Jackson, Deputy Secretary of Technology, is the Commonwealth's point of contact for this effort. She can be reached at [karen.jackson@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:karen.jackson@governor.virginia.gov).

Sincerely,



Timothy M. Kaine